

PRE

- TO PREVENT.** *v. a.* [*prævenio*, Lat. *prevenire*, Fr.]
 1. To go before as a guide; to go before, making the way easy.
 Are we to forsake any true opinion, or to shun any requisite action, only because we have in the practice thereof been prevented by idolaters. *Hooker, b. v. f. 12.*
 Prevent him with the blessings of goodness. *Psalms xxi. 3.*
 Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour. *Common Prayer.*
 Let thy grace, O Lord, always prevent and follow us. *Common Prayer.*
 2. To go before; to be before; to anticipate.
 Mine eyes prevent the night-watches, that I might be occupied in thy words. *Psalms cxix. 4.*
 The same officer told us, he came to conduct us, and that he had prevented the hour, because we might have the whole day before us for our business. *Bacon.*
 Nothing engendered doth prevent his meat:
 Flies have their tables spread, ere they appear;
 Some creatures have in winter what to eat;
 Others do sleep. *Herbert's Temple of Sacred Poems.*
 Soon shalt thou find, if thou but arm their hands,
 Their ready guilt preventing thy commands;
 Could'st thou some great proportion'd mischief frame,
 They'd prove the father from whose loins they came, *Pope.*
 3. To preoccupy; to preengage; to attempt first.
 Thou hast prevented us with offers of love, even when we were thine enemies. *King Charles.*
 4. To hinder; to obviate; to obstruct. This is now almost the only sense.
 They prevented me in the day of my trouble; but the Lord was my upholder. *Psalms xviii. 18.*
 I do find it cowardly and vile,
 For fear of what might fall, so to prevent
 The time of life. *Shakespeare, Julius Caesar.*
 Foretold to lately what would come to pass. *Milton.*
 Too great confidence in success is the likeliest to prevent it; because it hinders us from making the best use of the advantages which we enjoy. *Atterbury.*
TO PREVENT. *v. n.* To come before the time. A latinism.
 Strawberries watered with water, wherein hath been steeped sheep's dung, will prevent and come early. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
PREVENTER. *n. f.* [from *prevent*.]
 1. One that goes before.
 The archduke was the assailant, and the preventer, and had the fruit of his diligence and celerity. *Bacon.*
 2. One that hinders; an hinderer; an obstructer.
PREVENTION. *n. f.* [*prevention*, Fr. from *preventum*, Lat.]
 1. The act of going before.
 The greater the distance, the greater the prevention; as in thunder, where the lightning precedeth the crack a good space. *Bacon.*
 No odds appear'd
 In might or swift prevention. *Milton.*
 2. Preoccupation; anticipation.
 Achievements, plots, orders, preventions,
 Success or loss. *Shakespeare.*
 3. Hindrance; obstruction.
 Half way he met
 His daring foe, at this prevention more
 Incensed. *Milton.*
 Prevention of sin is one of the greatest mercies God can vouchsafe. *South's Sermons.*
 4. Prejudice; prepossession. A French expression.
 In reading what I have written, let them bring no particular gusto or any prevention of mind, and that whatsoever judgment they make, it may be purely their own. *Dryden.*
PREVENTIONAL. *adj.* [from *prevention*.] Tending to prevention. *Dist.*
PREVENTIVE. *adj.* [from *prevent*.]
 1. Tending to hinder.
 Wars preventive upon just fears are true defensives, as well as upon actual invasions. *Bacon.*
 2. Preservative; hindering ill. It has *of* before the thing prevented.
 Physick is curative or preventive of diseases; preventive is that which, by purging noxious humours, preventeth sickness. *Brown.*
 Procuring a due degree of sweat and perspiration, is the best preventive of the gout. *Arbutnot.*
PREVENTIVE. *n. f.* [from *prevent*.] A preservative; that which prevents; an antidote.
PREVENTIVELY. *adv.* [from *preventive*.] In such a manner as tends to prevention.
 Such as fearing to concede a monstrosity, or mutilate the integrity of Adam, preventively conceive the creation of thirteen ribs. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
PREVIOUS. *adj.* [*præviuus*, Lat.] Antecedent; going before; prior.
 By this previous intimation we may gather some hopes, that the matter is not desperate. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*
 Sound from the mountain, previous to the storm.
 Rolls o'er the muttering Earth. *Thomson.*

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- PREVIOUSLY.** *adv.* [from *previous*.] Beforehand; antecedently.
 Darting their stings, they previously declare
 Design'd revenge, and fierce intent of war.
 It cannot be reconciled with perfect sanctity, as previously supposing some neglect of better information. *Prior.*
PREVIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *previous*.] Antecedence. *Fidler.*
PREY. *n. f.* [*præda*, Lat.]
 1. Something to be devoured; something to be seized; food gotten by violence; ravine; wealth gotten by violence; plunder.
 A garriſon ſupported itſelf, by the prey it took from the neighbourhood of Aylebury. *Clarendon, b. viii.*
 The whole included race his purpoſ'd prey. *Milton.*
 She fees herſelf the monſter's prey,
 And feels her heart and intrails torn away. *Dryden.*
 Pindar, that eagle, mounts the ſkies,
 While virtue leads the noble way;
 Too like a vulture Boileau flies,
 Where fordid int'reſt ſhews the prey. *Prior.*
 2. Ravage; depredation.
 Hog in ſloth, fox in ſtealth, lion in prey. *Shakeſp.*
 3. Animal of prey, is an animal that lives on other animals.
 There are men of prey, as well as beaſts and birds of prey, that live upon, and delight in blood. *L'Eſtrange.*
TO PREY. *v. n.* [*prædator*, Lat.]
 1. To feed by violence. With *on* before the object.
 A lion'eſs
 Lay couching head on ground, with cat-like watch,
 When that the ſleeping man ſhould ſtir: for 'tis
 The royal diſpoſition of that beaſt
 To prey on nothing that doth ſeem as dead. *Shakeſp.*
 Put your torches out;
 The wolves have prey'd, and look the gentle day
 Dapples the drowly eaſt. *Shakeſp.*
 Jove venom ſift inſus'd in ſerpents fell,
 Taught wolves to prey, and ſtormy ſeas to ſwell.
 Their impious folly dar'd to prey
 On herds devoted to the god of day. *Pope.*
 2. To plunder; to rob.
 They pray continually unto their faint the commonwealth,
 or rather not pray to her, but prey on her; for they ride up
 and down on her, and make her their boots. *Shakeſp.*
 3. To corrode; to waſte.
 Language is too faint to ſhow
 His rage of love; it preys upon his life;
 He pines, he ſickens, he deſpairs, he dies. *Addiſon.*
PREYER. *n. f.* [from *prey*.] Robber; devourer; plunderer.
PRIAPISM. *n. f.* [*priapiſmus*, Lat. *priapiſme*, Fr.] A preternatural tenſion.
 Luſt cauſeth a flagraney in the eyes and priapiſm. *Bacon.*
 The perſon every night has a priapiſm in his ſleep. *Floyer.*
PRICE. *n. f.* [*pris*, Fr. *prævium*, Lat.]
 1. Equivalent paid for any thing.
 I will buy it of thee at a price; neither will I offer burnt-offerings unto the Lord my God, of that which coſt me nothing. *2 Samuel xxiv. 24.*
 From that which hath its price in compoſition, if you take away any thing, or any part do fail, all is diſgrace. *Bacon.*
 If fortune has a niggard been to thee,
 Devote thyſelf to thrift, not luxury;
 And wiſely make that kind of food thy choice,
 To which neceſſity confines thy price. *Dryden.*
 2. Value; eſtimation; ſuppoſed excellence.
 We ſtand in ſome jealouſy, left by thus overvaluing their ſermons; they make the price and eſtimation of ſcripture, otherwiſe notified, to fall. *Hooker.*
 Sugar hath put down the uſe of honey, inſomuch as we have loſt thoſe preparations of honey which the ancients had, when it was more in price. *Bacon.*
 3. Rate at which any thing is ſold.
 Suppoſing the quantity of wheat, in reſpect to its vent be the ſame, that makes the change in the price of wheat. *Locke.*
 4. Reward; thing purchaſed at any rate.
 Sometimes virtue ſtaves, while vice is fed;
 What then? is the reward of virtue bread?
 That, vice may merit; 'tis the price of toil;
 The knave deſerves it, when he tills the ſoil. *Pope.*
TO PRICE. *v. a.* To pay for.
 Some ſhall pay the price of others guilt;
 And he the man that made ſans ſoy to fall,
 Shall with his own blood price that he hath ſpilt. *F. Queen.*
TO PRICK. *v. a.* [*priccan*, Saxon.]
 1. To pierce with a ſmall puncture.
 Leave her to heav'n,
 And to thoſe thorns that in her boſom lodge,
 To prick and ſting her.
 There ſhall be no more a pricking brier unto the houſe of Iſrael, nor any grieving thorn. *Ezekiel xxviii. 24.*
 If he pricked her finger, Jack laid the pin in the way. *Art.*
 2. To form or erect with an acuminated point.
 The poets make fame a monſter; they ſay, look how many feathers the hath, ſo many eyes the hath underneath, ſo many tongues, ſo many voices, ſhe pricks up ſo many ears. *Bacon's Eſſays.*
 A hunted

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- A hunted panther caſts about
 Her glaring eyes, and pricks her liſt'ning ears to ſcout. *Dry.*
 His rough creſt he rears,
 And pricks up his predetermining ears. *Dryden.*
 The fiery courſer, when he hears from far
 The ſprightly trumpets and the ſhouts of war,
 Pricks up his ears. *Dryden's Virgil's Georg.*
 A greyhound hath pricked ears, but thoſe of a hound hang down; for that the former hunts with his ears, the latter only with his noſe. *Grew.*
 The tuneful noiſe the ſprightly courſer hears,
 Paws the green turf, and pricks his trembling ears. *Gay.*
 Keep cloſe to ears, and thoſe let aſſes prick;
 'Tis nothing—nothing; if they bite and kick. *Pope.*
 3. To fix by the point.
 I cauſed the edges of two knives to be ground truly ſtrait, and pricking their points into a board, ſo that their edges might look towards one another, and meeting near their points contain a rectilinear angle, I faſtened their handles together with pitch, to make this angle invariable. *Newton.*
 4. To hang on a point.
 The cooks ſlice it into little gobbets, prick it on a prong of iron, and hang it in a furnace. *Sandy.*
 5. To nominate by a puncture or mark.
 Thoſe many then ſhall die, their names are prick'd.
 Some who are prick'd for ſheriffs, and are hit, ſet out of the bill. *Shakeſp.*
 6. To ſpur; to goad; to impel; to incite.
 When I call to mind your gracious favours,
 My duty pricks me on to utter that,
 Which elſe no worldly good ſhould draw from me. *Shakeſp.*
 Well, 'tis no matter, honour pricks me on;
 But how if honour prick me off, when I come on. *Shakeſp. Henry IV.*
 His high courage prick'd him forth to wed. *Pope.*
 7. To pain; to pierce with remorſe.
 When they heard this, they were prick'd in their hearts,
 and ſaid, men and brethren what ſhall we do? *Acts ii. 37.*
 8. To make acid.
 They their late attacks decline,
 And turn as eager as prick'd wine. *Hudibras, p. ii.*
 9. To mark a tune.
TO PRICK. *v. n.* [*pricken*, Dutch.]
 1. To dreſs one's ſelf for ſhow.
 2. To come upon the ſpur. This ſeems to be the ſenſe in *Spenser*.
 After that Varlet's flight, it was not long,
 Ere on the plain ſalt pricking Guyon ſpied,
 One in bright arms embattled full ſtrong. *Fa. Queen.*
 A gentle knight was pricking on the plain,
 Yclad in mighty arms of ſilver ſhield. *Fa. Queen.*
 They had not ridden far, when they might ſee
 One pricking towards them with haſty heat. *Fa. Queen.*
 The ſcottish horſemen began to hover much upon the
 Engliſh army, and to come pricking about them, ſometimes
 within length of their ſtaves. *Hayward.*
 Before each van
 Prick forth the airy knights. *Milton.*
 In this king Arthur's reign,
 A luſty knight was pricking o'er the plain. *Dryden.*
PRICK. *n. f.* [*pricke*, Saxon.]
 1. A ſharp ſlender inſtrument; any thing by which a puncture is made.
 The country gives me proof
 Of bedlam beggars, who, with roaring voices,
 Strike in their numb'd and mortified bare arms
 Pins, wooden pricks, nails, ſprigs of roſemary. *Shakeſp.*
 It is hard for thee to kick againſt the pricks. *Acts ix. 5.*
 If the Engliſh would not in peace govern them by the law,
 nor could in war root them out by the ſword, muſt they not
 be pricks in their eyes, and thorns in their ſides. *Davies.*
 If God would have had men live like wild beaſts, he would
 have armed them with horns, tuſks, talons or pricks. *Bramb.*
 2. A thorn in the mind; a taſing and tormenting thought; remorſe of conſcience.
 My conſcience firſt receiv'd a tendernes,
 Scruple, and prick, on certain ſpeeches utter'd
 By th' biſhop of Bayon. *Shakeſp. Henry VIII.*
 3. A ſpot or mark at which archers aim.
 For long ſhooting, their ſtaff was a cloth yard, their pricks
 twenty-four ſcore; for ſtrength, they would pierce any ordinary
 armour. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*
 4. A point; a fixed place.
 Now gins this goodly frame of temperance
 Fairly to riſe, and her adorned head
 To riſe of hiſt'riſt praſe forth to advance. *Spenser.*
 Pheton had tumbled from his car,
 And made an evening at the noon-side prick. *Shakeſp.*
 5. A puncture.
 No aſps were diſcovered in the place of her death, only
 two ſmall inſenſible pricks were found in her arm. *Brown.*
 6. The print of a hare in the ground.

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- PRICKER.** *n. f.* [from *prick*.]
 1. A ſharp-pointed inſtrument.
 Pricker is vulgarly called an awl; yet, for joiner's uſe, it
 hath moſt commonly a ſquare blade. *Maxon's Mechan. Exer.*
 2. A light horſeman.
 They had horſemen, prickers as they are termed, ſitter to
 make excuſions and to chace, than to ſuſtain any ſtrong
 charge. *Hayward.*
PRICKET. *n. f.* [from *prick*.] A buck in his ſecond year.
 I've call'd the deer; the princeſs kill'd a pricket. *Shakeſp.*
 The buck is called the firſt year a fawn, the ſecond year a
 pricket. *Mantwood of the Laws of the Forſt.*
PRICKLE. *n. f.* [from *prick*.] Small ſharp point, like that of
 a brier.
 The prickles of trees are a kind of excreſcence; the plants
 that have prickles, are black and white, thoſe have it in the
 bough; the plants that have prickles in the leaf, are holly and
 juniper; nettles alſo have a ſmall venomous prickle. *Bacon.*
 An herb growing in the water, called lincoſtis, is full of
 prickles: this putteth forth another ſmall herb out of the leaf,
 imputed to moiſture gathered between the prickles. *Bacon.*
 A fox catching hold of a bramble to break his fall, the
 prickles ran into his feet. *L'Eſtrange.*
 The man who laugh'd but once to ſee an aſs
 Mumbling to make the croſs-grain'd thistles paſs,
 Might laugh again, to ſee a jury chaw
 The prickles of unpalatable law. *Dryden.*
 The flower's divine, where'er it grows,
 Neglect the prickles, and aſſume the roſe. *Watts.*
PRICKLINESS. *n. f.* [from *prickly*.] Fullneſs of ſharp points.
PRICKLOUSE. *n. f.* [*prick and louſe*] A word of contempt
 for a taylor. A low word.
 A taylor and his wife quarrelling; the woman in contempt
 called her husband pricklouſe. *L'Eſtrange.*
PRICKSONG. *n. f.* [*prick and ſong*.] Song ſet to muſick.
 He fights as you ſing prickſongs, keeps time, diſtance and
 proportion. *Shakeſp. Romeo and Juliet.*
PRICKLY. *adj.* [from *prick*.] Full of ſharp points.
 Artichocks will be leſs prickly and more tender, if the ſeeds
 have their tops grated off upon a ſtone. *Bacon.*
 I no more
 Shall ſee you browzing, on the mountain's brow;
 The prickly ſhrubs. *Dryden.*
 How did the humbled ſwain deſt
 His prickly beard, and hairy breaſt! *Swift's Misc.*
PRICKMADAM. *n. f.* A ſpecies of houſeleek, which ſee.
PRICKPUNCH. *n. f.*
 Prickpunch is a piece of tempered ſteel, with a round point
 at one end, to prick a round mark in cold iron. *Maxon.*
PRICKWOOD. *n. f.* A tree. *Ainworth.*
PRIDE. *n. f.* [*pride* or *pryde*, Saxon.]
 1. Inordinate and unreaſonable ſelf-eſteem.
 I can ſee his pride
 Peep through each part of him. *Shakeſp. Henry V. II.*
 Pride hath no other glaſs
 To ſhew itſelf, but pride; for ſupple knees
 Feed arrogance, and are the proud man's fees. *Shakeſp.*
 He his wonted pride ſoon recollects. *Milton.*
 Vain aims, inordinate deſires
 Blown up with high conceits engend'ring pride. *Milton.*
 2. Inſolence; rude treatment of others; inſolent exultation.
 That witch
 Hath wrought this helliſh miſchief unawares;
 That hardly we ſcap'd the pride of France. *Shakeſp.*
 They undergo
 This annual humbling certain number'd days,
 To daſh their pride and joy for man ſeduc'd. *Milton.*
 Wantonneſs and pride
 Raiſe out of friendſhip, hoſtile deeds in peace. *Milton.*
 3. Dignity of manner; loftineſs of air.
 4. Generous elation of heart.
 The honeſt pride of conſcious virtue. *Snodgrass.*
 5. Elevation; dignity.
 A falcon, tow'ring in her pride of place,
 Was by a mouſing owl hawk'd at and kill'd. *Shakeſp.*
 6. Ornament; ſhow; decoration.
 Whole lofty trees, yclad with ſummer's pride,
 Did ſpread ſo broad, that heavens light did hide. *F. Queen.*
 Smalleſt linaments exact,
 In all the liveries deck'd of ſummer's pride. *Milton.*
 Be his this ſword,
 Whole ivory ſheath, inwrought with curious pride,
 Adds graceful terror to the weater's ſide. *Pope.*
 7. Splendour; oftentation.
 In this array the war of either ſide,
 Through Athens paſs'd with military pride. *Dryden.*
 8. The ſtate of a female beaſt ſoliciting the male.
 It is impoſſible you ſhould ſee this,
 Were they as ſalt as wolves in pride. *Shakeſp.*
TO PRIDE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To make proud; to rate
 himſelf high. It is only uſed with the reciprocal pronoun.
 He could have made the moſt deformed beggar as rich, as
 thoſe who moſt pride themſelves in their wealth. *Go. of the Ton.*
 This